



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1

5 POST OFFICE SQUARE, SUITE 100
BOSTON, MA 02109-3912

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

JUN 01 2016

Penny Pritzker, Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. MA0003557; Permittee request for Thermal Discharge Limits Based on a Variance under Section 316(a) of the Clean Water Act

Dear Secretary Pritzker:

I send this letter to provide you with formal notification that the Entergy Nuclear Generation Company (the "permittee"), has requested that thermal discharge limitations to be included in the upcoming renewal of its NPDES permit for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station located in Plymouth, Massachusetts be based on a variance under Section 316(a) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C § 1326(a). The permittee submitted its permit application on September 19, 1995 and a supplemental application on December 1, 1999.

Your staff in the National Marine Fisheries Service in Gloucester, Massachusetts is also receiving notice of the permittee's 316(a) variance request. Nevertheless, I send this letter simply to formally document that we have met the notification requirement specified in 40 CFR § 125.72(d), which states the following:

The Director shall promptly notify the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior, and any affected State of the filing of the request [i.e., the request for a 316(a) variance] and shall consider any timely recommendations they submit.

Per our usual procedures, EPA will transmit a draft permit (and accompanying Fact Sheet) to NMFS for its review and will, of course, consider any timely recommendations submitted by the Department as we work to finalize it. Staff at our office are available to discuss aspects of the draft permit with the Department as necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. Curtis Spalding", written over a horizontal line.

H. Curtis Spalding
Regional Administrator

cc: Lou Chiarella, National Marine Fisheries Service



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Sally Jewell, Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Re: Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. MA0003557; Permittee request for Thermal Discharge Limits Based on a Variance under Section 316(a) of the Clean Water Act

Dear Secretary Jewell:

I send this letter to provide you with formal notification that the Entergy Nuclear Generation Company (the "permittee"), has requested that thermal discharge limitations to be included in the upcoming renewal of its NPDES permit for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station located in Plymouth, Massachusetts be based on a variance under Section 316(a) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C §1326(a). The permittee submitted its initial permit application on September 19, 1995 and a supplemental application on December 1, 1999.

Your staff in the Fish and Wildlife Service in Concord, New Hampshire is also receiving notice of the permittee's 316(a) variance request. Nevertheless, I send this letter simply to formally document that we have met the notification requirement specified in 40 CFR § 125.72(d), which states the following:

The Director shall promptly notify the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior, and any affected State of the filing of the request [i.e., the request for a 316(a) variance] and shall consider any timely recommendations they submit.

Per our usual procedures, EPA has transmitted a draft permit (and accompanying Fact Sheet) to the Fish and Wildlife Service for its review and will, of course, consider any timely recommendations submitted by the Department of Interior as we work to finalize it. Staff at our office are available to discuss aspects of the draft permit with the Department as necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Curtis Spalding", written over a horizontal line.

H. Curtis Spalding
Regional Administrator

cc: Tom Chapman, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



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Martin Suuberg, Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
One Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. MA0003557; Permittee request for Thermal Discharge Limits Based on a Variance under Section 316(a) of the Clean Water Act

Dear Commissioner Suuberg:

I send this letter to provide you with formal notification that the Entergy Nuclear Generation Company (the "permittee"), has requested that thermal discharge limitations to be included in the upcoming renewal of its NPDES permit for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station located in Plymouth, Massachusetts be based on a variance under Section 316(a) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C § 1326(a). The permittee submitted its permit application on September 19, 1995 and a supplemental application on December 1, 1999.

Your staff are already aware of the permittee's 316(a) variance request. Indeed, EPA has already been coordinating with your office in evaluating issues pertaining to the variance request. Nevertheless, I send this letter simply to formally document that we have met the notification requirement specified in 40 CFR § 125.72(d), which states the following:

The Director shall promptly notify the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior, and any affected State of the filing of the request [i.e., the request for a 316(a) variance] and shall consider any timely recommendations they submit.

Thank you for your attention to this important permit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. Curtis Spalding", written over a horizontal line.

H. Curtis Spalding
Regional Administrator

cc: David Ferris, MassDEP